

United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service

Northeast Regional Office / Fisheries Statistics Office

Georges Bank Sea Scallop Exemption Fishery

(A preliminary monitoring report)

data last updated on **24-Sep-99**

	Directed Scallop Fishery (meat weight)	Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch (live weight)
Total Allowable Catch (TAC)	9,384,812 lbs (4,257 mt)*	853,165 lbs (387 mt)*
Total Catch to date	3,761,238	466,043
% of TAC	40%	55%

* 2,204.56 lbs equal 1 metric ton (mt)

	Trips	Number of Vessels
Number of Trips¹	1	29
	2	29
	3	105
Total Number of Participating Vessels		163
Number of Scallop Fishing Trips¹		414
Percentage of Observed Trips		28.0%

This report is based on information provided daily by vessels fishing in Closed Area II via the weathertrac reporting system. The information provided includes only the weather trac system number unique to the vessel, the time and location when the report was transmitted, and the total amount of scallops caught since the previous report (lbs of meat). For vessels carrying observer, the report also includes the observed catch of scallops (lbs of meat) and the pounds of yellowtail flounder caught since the previous report. Determination of number of trips is based on there being a break of at least 1.5 days between reports and for vessels without observers a cumulative catch of scallops of at least 8,000 pounds, for vessels with an observer on board, a new trip was determined to have begun if there was a break of at least 1.5 days between reports and the vessel had a catch of at least 10,000 pounds of scallops. For a variety of reasons (e.g., gear or engine problems), there may have been a time lag between reports greater than 1.5 days for some vessels while still at sea.

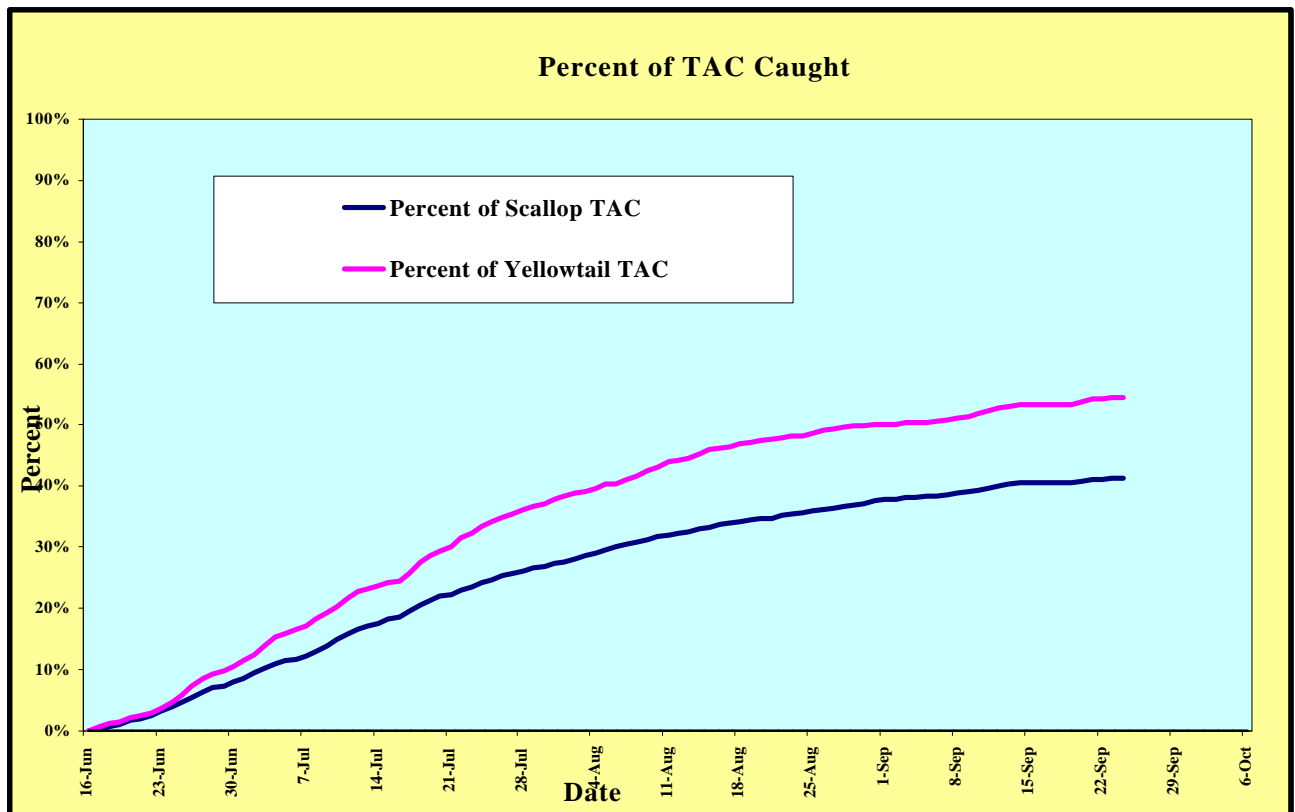


Figure 1. Cumulative Percentages of Yellowtail Flounder and Scallop TACs caught for Closed Area II exempted fishery.

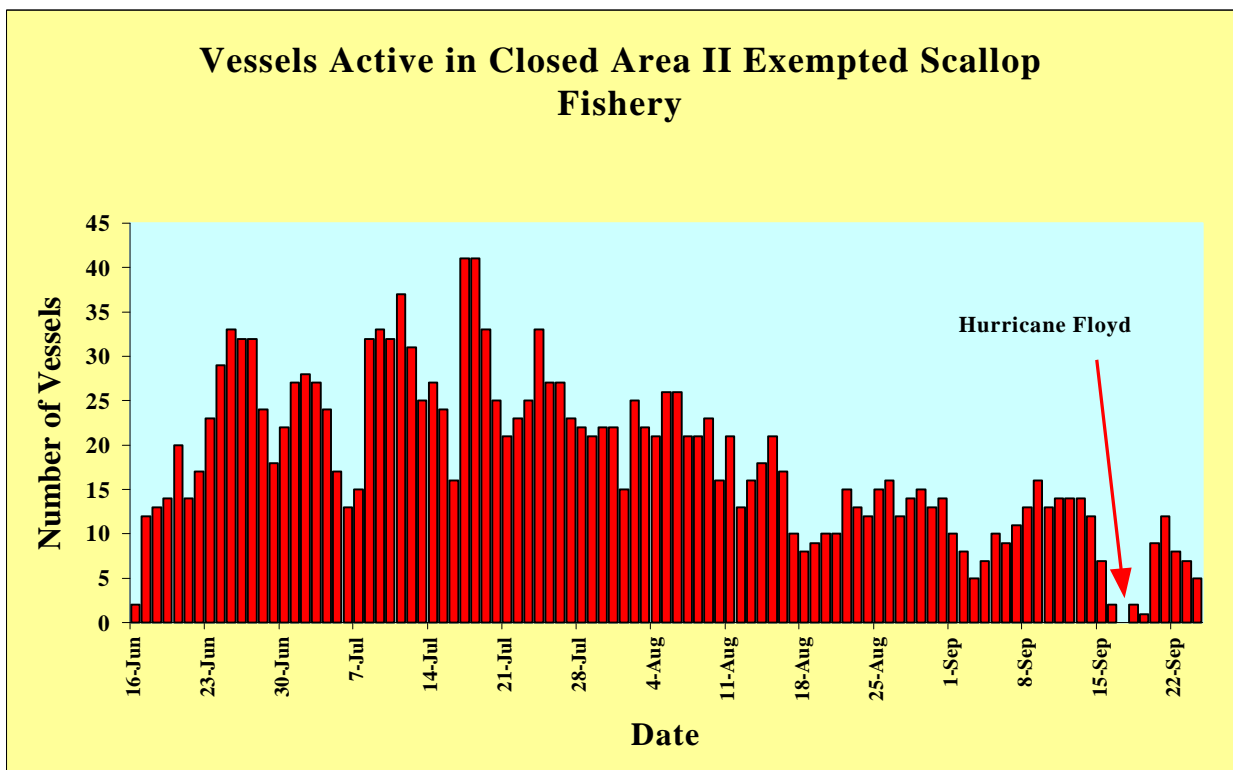


Figure 2. Number of vessels reporting fishing activity in Closed Area II exemption fishery

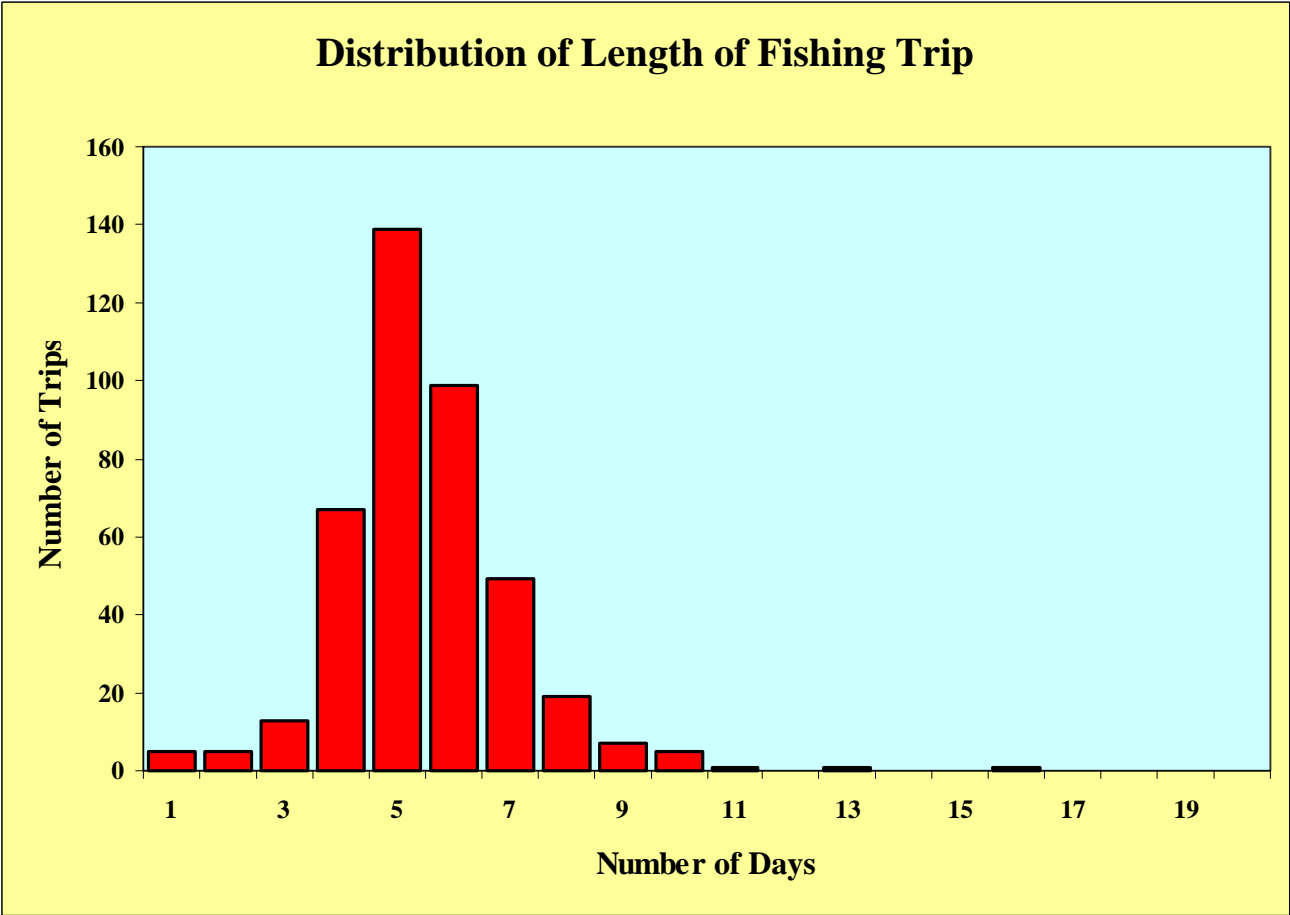


Figure 3. Distribution of fishing trip length for Closed Area II exemption fishery.